

Weekly Disease Surveillance Report

2021 Reporting Week 32 : August 8 — August 14



This weekly report is produced by the DOH-Okaloosa Epidemiology Section to provide situational awareness to community partners. Data is subject to change as additional information is gathered.

Okaloosa COVID-19 Surge Continues to Break Records

Once again, COVID-19 cases have increased and community transmission is **HIGH** for the sixth week in a row. Another week in which the number of new cases reported exceeds every other past week since the start of the pandemic. The percent of all COVID-19 tests that are positive in Week 32 is at an all-time high for Okaloosa County at **29.6%**. In our second year of this pandemic, the most heavily impacted people are those who are unvaccinated. COVID-19 infection in fully vaccinated individuals is very rare. Of the 87,071 individuals fully vaccinated as of week 32, 0.34% have been diagnosed with the disease. The vaccine is highly effective at preventing severe disease and death.

Uptake of the vaccine increased dramatically in Okaloosa. Over 3,000 individuals initiated COVID-19 vaccination in Week 32. This is more than double that of two weeks ago. In Week 32, the FDA and CDC authorized a third dose of the mRNA vaccine for moderately and severely immunosuppressed people who had completed either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine series. The third dose must be from the same manufacturer. Persons who have other chronic medical conditions should consult their physician about obtaining a third dose. An additional dose is not authorized for the J&J vaccine.

As of August 17, our local hospitals reported 39.7% of all available hospital beds were occupied by patients with COVID-19. Hospitals increased ICU bed capacity to 63 beds from the usual 54 beds and **81%** of ICU beds were occupied by COVID-19 patients. The majority of individuals in the hospital with COVID-19 (67.6%) were under age 65 years. Over 87% of persons hospitalized with COVID-19 were unvaccinated. For Week 32, respiratory syndrome was the top reason for all individuals to visit local emergency departments, with the exception of the 75+ year old age group (page 6).

STOP this current surge - Get VACCINATED! It is SAFE. It WORKS!

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COVID-19 Snapshot

Week 32 Review		Difference from Wk31
Resident Case Count	1390	+73
Resident Case Count per 100K Population	673.4	+35.4
Average Resident Cases per Day	198.6	+10.5
Percent Positivity	29.6%	+1.2
Deaths	8	-1
Cumulative Cases March 2020 - Feb 2021	18900	
Cumulative Cases March 2021 - Present	7183	
Cumulative Deaths March 2020 - Feb 2021	327	
Cumulative Deaths March 2021 - Present	73	

Data Source: Merlin Database

Week 32 Community Risk Level		
COVID-19 Community Risk Level	New Cases per 100K Population per Week	% Positivity per Week
HIGH	673.4	29.6%
PREVIOUS WEEK RISK LEVEL: HIGH		
Low	<10	<5%
Moderate	10-49	5-7.9%
Substantial	50-99	8-9.9%
High	>100	>10%

Community risk level is the color of the higher risk level for the two indicators.

Data Source : CDC [Community Indicators at the County Level](#)



COVID-19 Fully
Vaccinated =
No Quarantine

COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 32: August 8 - August 14

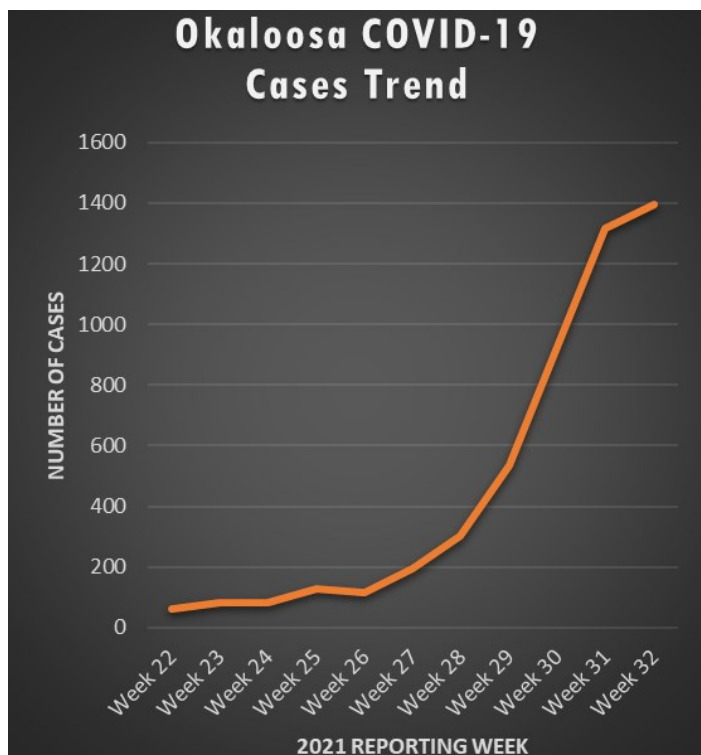


Figure 1: Trend of total COVID-19 cases by week. Data source: Merlin Database

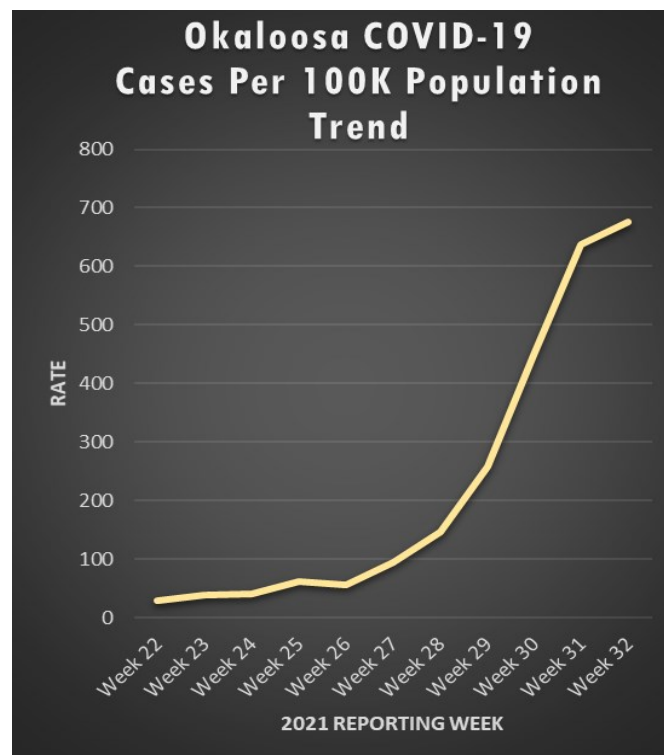


Figure 2: Trend of COVID-19 case rates by week. Data source: Merlin Database

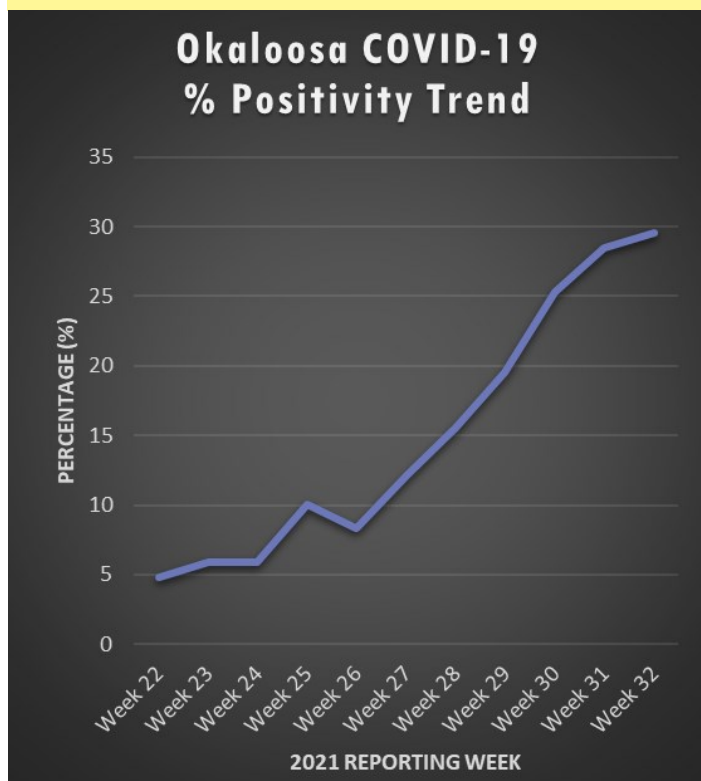


Figure 3: Trend of 7-day moving percent positivity of COVID-19 cases by week. Data source: Merlin Database

COVID-19 Cases by Age Group

Age Group	Okaloosa Resident Cases since 03/01/21 through Week 32	% by Age Group	Difference from Week 31
0-11	540	8%	+108
12-14	194	3%	+49
15-24	1206	17%	+244
25-44	2686	38%	+491
45-64	1725	24%	+352
65-74	442	6%	+83
75-84	168	2%	+40
85+	102	1%	+23
Unknown	1	0%	0
Total	7064	100%	1390

Data Source: Merlin Database



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COVID-19 in Okaloosa County

Week 32: August 8 - August 14

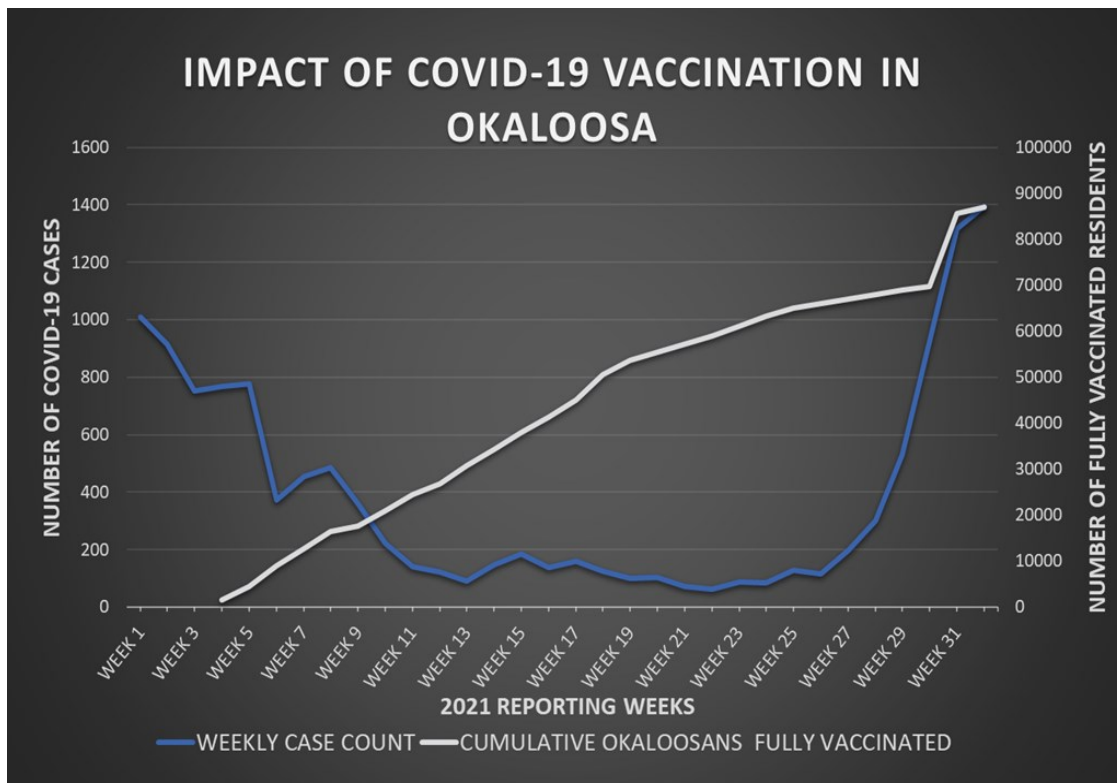


Figure 4:

Cumulative number of fully vaccinated Okaloosa residents as compared to COVID-19 cases per week. Data reported through previous Sunday.

Data Source: Merlin Database

**PERCENT OF
BREAKTHROUGH
INFECTION
IN FULLY-VACCINATED
CASES:**

0.34%

**PERCENT OF DEATHS
IN FULLY-VACCINATED
CASES:**

0.008%

Vaccination Impact in Okaloosa

UPDATED VACCINATION DATA RESOURCE

DOH-Okaloosa has identified that the CDC COVID Data Tracker presents county level vaccination data that includes vaccinations from entities not reporting into FL SHOTS.

Currently FL SHOTS only represents vaccinations given by providers receiving vaccine from the FL Department of Health, retail pharmacies, or long-term care facilities.

The CDC also includes vaccinations provided at:

- Dialysis centers participating in the Federal Dialysis Center Program
- Health Resources and Services Administration partner sites
- Federal entities such as Department of Defense, Veterans Health Administration, Indian Health Service and Bureau of Prisons.

This will be the data source used by DOH-Okaloosa starting with Week 31 of the Weekly Disease Surveillance Report. This provides a more accurate comparison of Okaloosa to the US population.

COVID-19 Vaccinations		
VACCINATED GROUPS	OKALOOSA	US
% of Population \geq 12 Years of Age	48.8%	59.3%
% of Population \geq 18 Years of Age	51.5%	61.7%
% of Population \geq 65 Years of Age	83.9%	80.8%

Data reported through previous Sunday. Data Source: CDC [COVID Data Tracker](#)



Influenza-Like Illness

Week 32: August 8 - August 14

Influenza-like Illness (ILI) is defined as fever greater than or equal to 100°F AND cough and/or sore throat in the absence of another known cause.

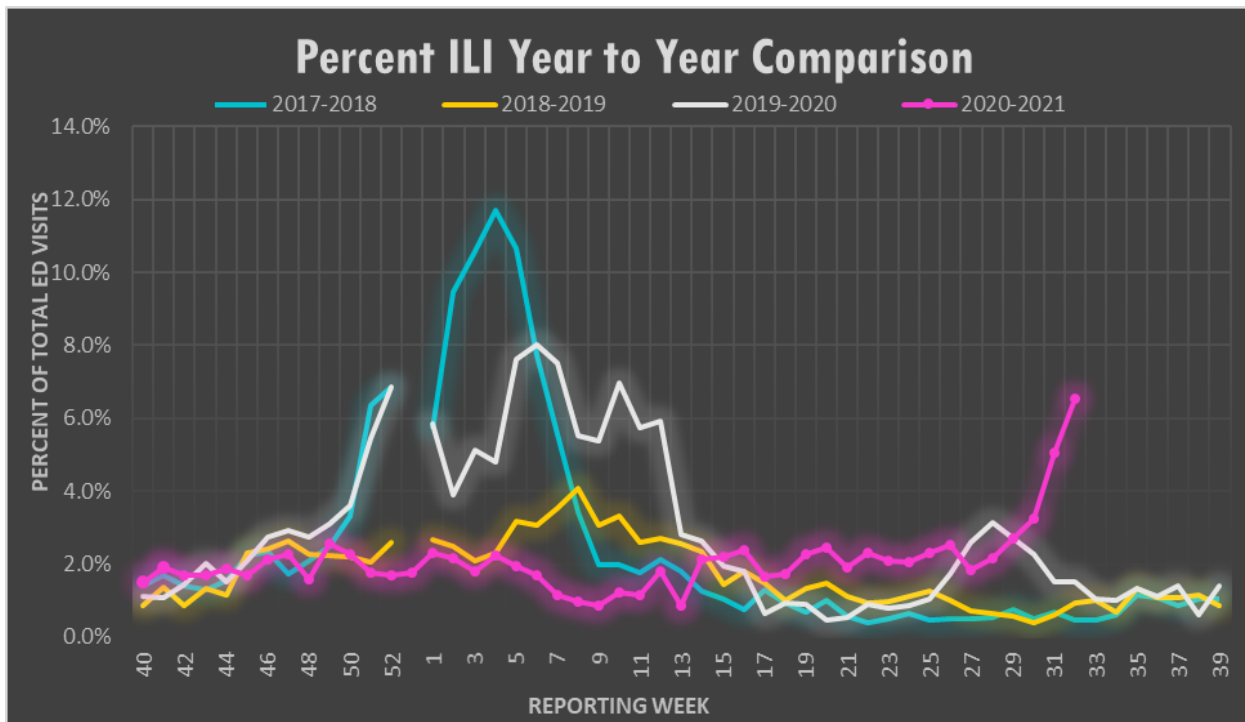


Figure 5: Annual comparison of the percent of all hospital ED visits due to ILI for Okaloosa county for the 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 influenza seasons by week.
Data source: ESSENCE

ANALYSIS: During Week 32, flu reporting partners and ESSENCE (a syndromic surveillance system) reported an increase in ILI activity for Okaloosa County. The percentage of ILI ED visits in Okaloosa County increased from 5.06% during Week 31 to 6.52% during Week 32. Flu partners reported four positive rapid influenza tests this week. Over the past three weeks, five out of 121 influenza specimens submitted to the state lab were positive (4 Influenza B unspecified, 1 Influenza A/B unspecified). There were no reported ILI admissions, outbreaks, or deaths reported this week. The percentage of total ILI ED visits for Week 32 is higher than that of Week 32 last year.

Note: Other respiratory syndromes can be represented by increased ILI case numbers. Data Source: ESSENCE

% ILI by Age Group Week 32, 2021

Age Range	ILI Visits	Total ED Visits	% Total ILI Visits
0-4	38	237	16.03%
5-19	21	317	6.62%
20-34	55	67	8.17%
35-54	50	759	6.59%
55-74	25	689	3.63%
75+	5	295	1.69%

Data Source: ESSENCE

% of Total ILI Visits by Facility Week 32, 2021

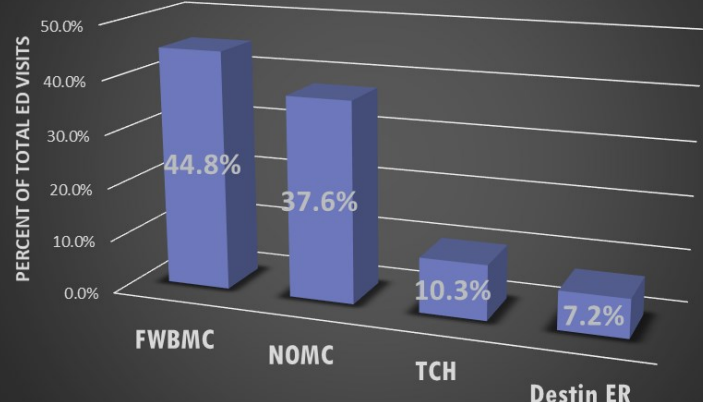


Figure 6: Hospital ED visits meeting ILI criteria stratified by facility. Percentages calculated based on total number of ILI ED visits. (n=194). Data source: ESSENCE



Syndromic Surveillance

Week 32: August 8 - August 14

Total ED Visits by Syndrome

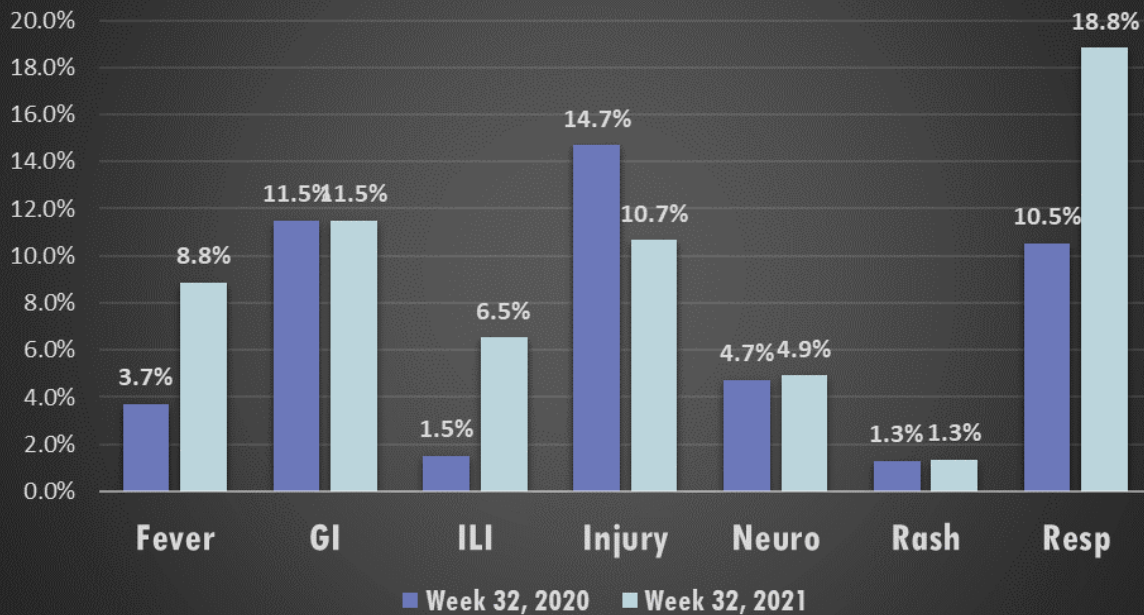
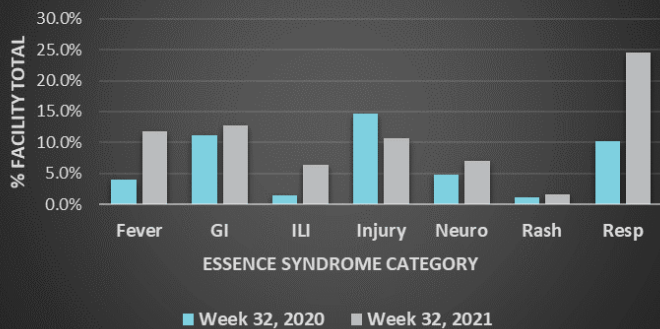


Figure 7: Hospital Emergency Department (ED) visits from 2021 Week 32 by select syndrome category. Percentages calculated based on total number of ED visits (n=2974). Some syndrome categories are not represented; therefore, represented percentages will not total 100%.

Data source: ESSENCE

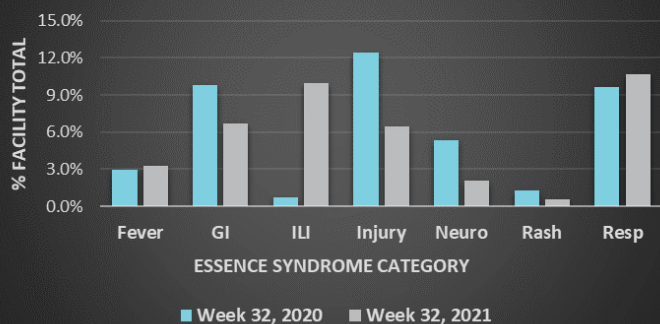
Fort Walton Beach Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 32—Fort Walton Beach Medical Center

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	60
5-19	RESP	46
20-34	RESP	72
35-54	RESP	81
55-74	RESP	55
75+	INJURY, RESP	16, 16

North Okaloosa Medical Center ED Presentations



Week 32—North Okaloosa Medical Center

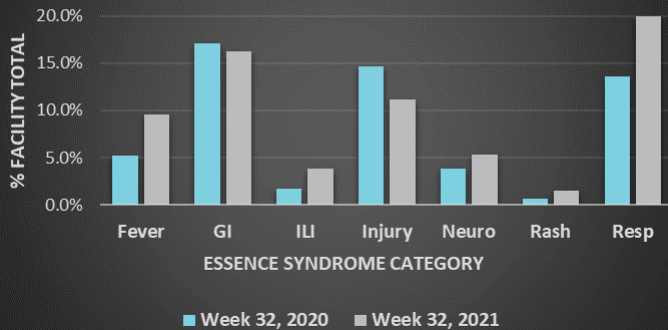
Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	6
5-19	FEVER, GI	6, 6
20-34	ILI	25
35-54	ILI	23
55-74	RESP	25
75+	INJURY	10



Syndromic Surveillance

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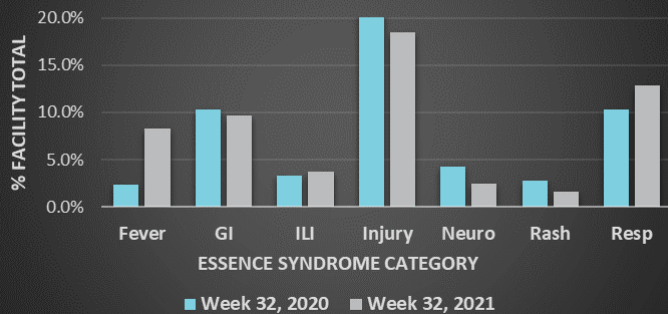
Twin Cities Hospital ED Presentations



Week 32—Twin Cities Hospital

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	FEVER	7
5-19	GI	10
20-34	RESP	26
35-54	RESP	28
55-74	RESP	32
75+	INJURY	13

DestinER ED Presentations



Week 32—DestinER

Age Range	Top Syndrome	Total ED Visits for Syndrome
0-4	RESP	13
5-19	INJURY	12
20-34	INJURY	18
35-54	GI, INJURY	14, 14
55-74	INJURY	9
75+	INJURY	9

Week 32—Okaloosa County

Age Group	Top Syndrome
0-4	RESP
5-19	RESP
20-34	RESP
35-54	RESP
55-74	RESP
75+	INJURY

Data Source: ESSENCE

